

LOVE NATURE. LOVE THE NAT.

WEDDING EVENTS





A VENUE AS MEMORABLE AS YOUR LOVE STORY

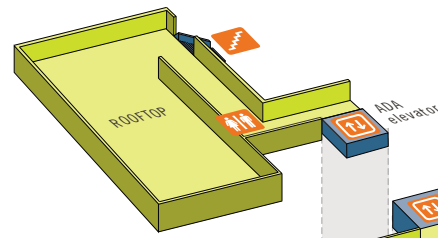
When you choose to celebrate your wedding day with us, you become a part of our mission. While many people know The Nat as a flagship institution in Balboa Park, we are much bigger than our building. The world we live in is an amazing place. We want everyone to understand it better, enjoy it more, and love it as much as we do, so we'll all protect it for the future. Because we believe that nature is the biggest exhibition of all.

OUR MISSION

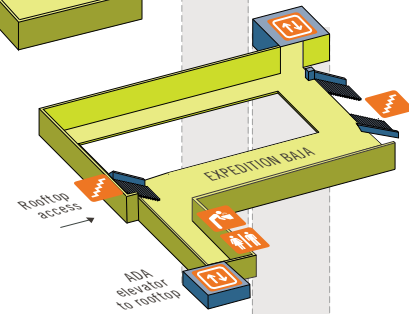
To interpret the natural world through research, education and exhibits; to promote understanding of the evolution and diversity of southern California and the peninsula of Baja California; and to inspire in all a respect for nature and the environment.

SPACE RENTAL OPTIONS

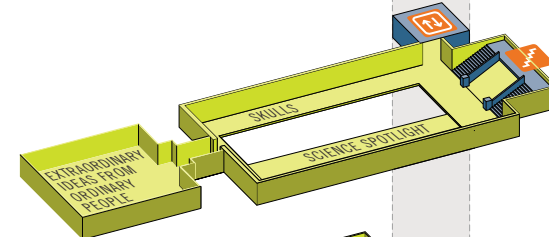
ROOFTOP



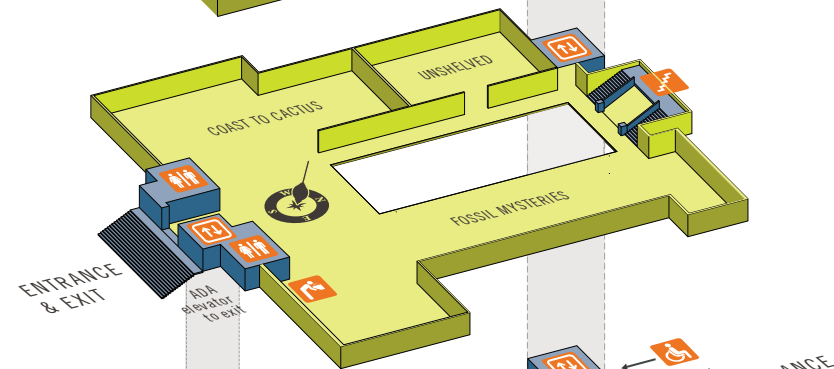
LEVEL 4



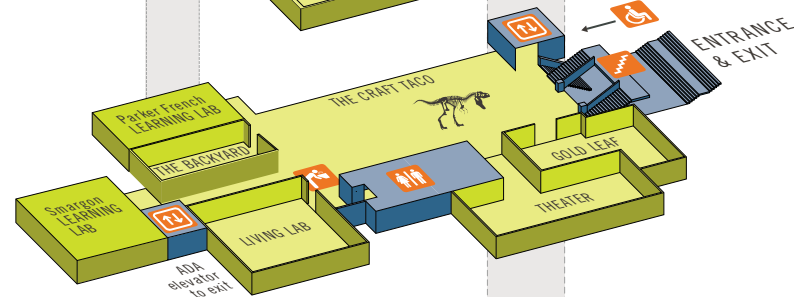
LEVEL 3



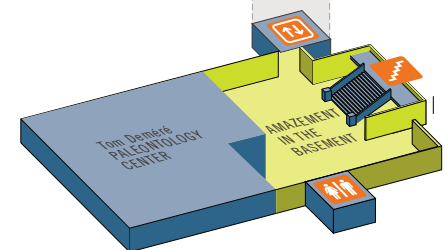
LEVEL 2



LEVEL 1



LOWER LEVEL





Rooftop Outdoor Ceremony *190 seated • 2,600 square feet*

Magic lives in the form of exquisite, scenic backgrounds surrounding the museum's rooftop terrace, the only one in Balboa Park! Your guests will be greeted by majestic mountains, stunning views of the harbor, and a romantic atmosphere as the sun sets over the San Diego city skyline.

Atrium Indoor Ceremony *Max capacity seated 300 • 5,000 square feet*

Our breathtaking ceremony spaces are customizable to your unique style. From traditional, religious settings to a dreamy and delicate ambiance, your dramatic grand entrance and sentimental "I do's" are guaranteed to be picturesque.

Theater Indoor Ceremony *Max capacity seated 300 • 3,800 square feet*

The Sefton Atrium is a stunning and versatile space with a 60-foot, four-story translucent ceiling and a granite floor. At 5,000 square feet, the Atrium can accommodate up to 300 guests for a seated dinner and up to 500 for a reception. If the additional second-story mezzanine space is used, dinner seating can increase to 340 and reception to 700. Perfect for corporate dinners, galas, wedding receptions, dances, and more.

Level 2 Indoor Cocktail Hour *Max capacity standing 600*

From the moment your guests are welcomed to our largest exhibition floor, they'll be swept off their feet in astonishment. Elements showcasing our nature's past and present create a memorable atmosphere, all with splashes of your style mirrored through decor of your choice.



Rooftop Outdoor Dinner Reception *Max capacity seated 100 • 2,600 square feet*

For intimate weddings, our rooftop terrace can be transformed from ceremony to dinner reception. Your guests can watch the stars come out as they celebrate your love, join you or a champagne toast, and dance under the night sky.

Atrium Indoor Dinner Reception *Max capacity seated 300 • 5,000 square feet*

The heart of our historic museum lies in the Sefton Atrium, where floor plans are tailored to your cherished experience. The Sefton Atrium is a show-stopping space with a 60' four-story translucent ceiling and granite floor. Two magnificent staircases lead to this space, designed for a bride's grand entrance. Natural light fills this room, allowing for layers of lights to accent the romantic space at night.

Lower Level Amazement in the Basement *Max capacity standing 100*

Give your guests an all-access look at the science behind the scenes, where millions of specimens and active research come to life. It's a unique event add on that allows guests to mingle while engaging up close with the discoveries and scientific work happening right here in our region.

SPACE RENTAL

Our historic venue invites up to 1,800 of your guests through 114,260 square feet of galleries exploring science and the beauty of nature. Ask us how we can accommodate your group size for an unparalleled experience, whether it's an intimate dinner for 10 or a full Museum buyout.

General Pricing

VENUE FEES	
Museum space per level, per hour	\$1,600 per level, per hour that guests are enjoying
Museum Security and Cleaning Services	\$400 for 100 guests, may vary based on event needs
Nonprofit and Military Discounts	10% off venue total available upon approval
Full Museum Buyout Package	Date restrictions may apply

Set-up Accommodations

- **Early Set Up** Available for an additional fee, upon request and approval
- **Set-Up and Breakdown** Standard 2-hour set-up window and 1-hour breakdown included with the rental fee.
- **Level 1** Sefton Atrium available after 3:15 PM
- **Level 2, 3, 4** Exhibit space available after 5 PM
- **Outdoor Rooftop** Rooftop Terrace available after 8 AM

Scheduled Payments

- **Non-refundable Retainer** \$500.00
- **Deposit** Due 100 days after receiving contract
- **Balance** Due within 30 days of event
- **Schedule Payments** Available upon request

Venue Availability

- **Museum Public Hours** 10AM-5PM Daily except for Christmas day and Thanksgiving
- **Private Event Hours** Depending on space availability 8AM - 2AM. Available all days except for Christmas day, Thanksgiving and New Years.

Liability Insurance

A certificate of insurance must be provided to the San Diego Natural History Museum in the amount of at least \$1 million, for yourself and all your sub-contractors. (Due within 30 days of event).

Packages

Combine our venue rental options to satisfy your event needs. Select multiple spaces for your guests to experience per hour, such as beginning your cocktail hour on our exquisite exhibition floor and inviting your guests to our elegant Atrium for a dinner reception. Or combine packages to have multiple floors open simultaneously. Begin a VIP hour on our magnificent outdoor rooftop terrace with panorama views of San Diego, and follow up with opening our largest exhibition floor and the grand Atrium for your guests to journey through a two-floor extravagant reception. No matter your needs, we'll personalize our packages to your guests' experience.

PACKAGES	3 HOURS	4 HOURS	5 HOURS
Flora (Single Floor)	\$4,800.00	\$6,400.00	\$8,000.00
Mammalia (Two Floors)	\$9,600.00	\$12,800.00	\$16,000.00
Cetacea (Three Floors)	\$14,400.00	\$19,200.00	\$24,000.00

A 3-HOUR MINIMUM VENUE RENTAL IS REQUIRED TO BOOK A PRIVATE EVENT.



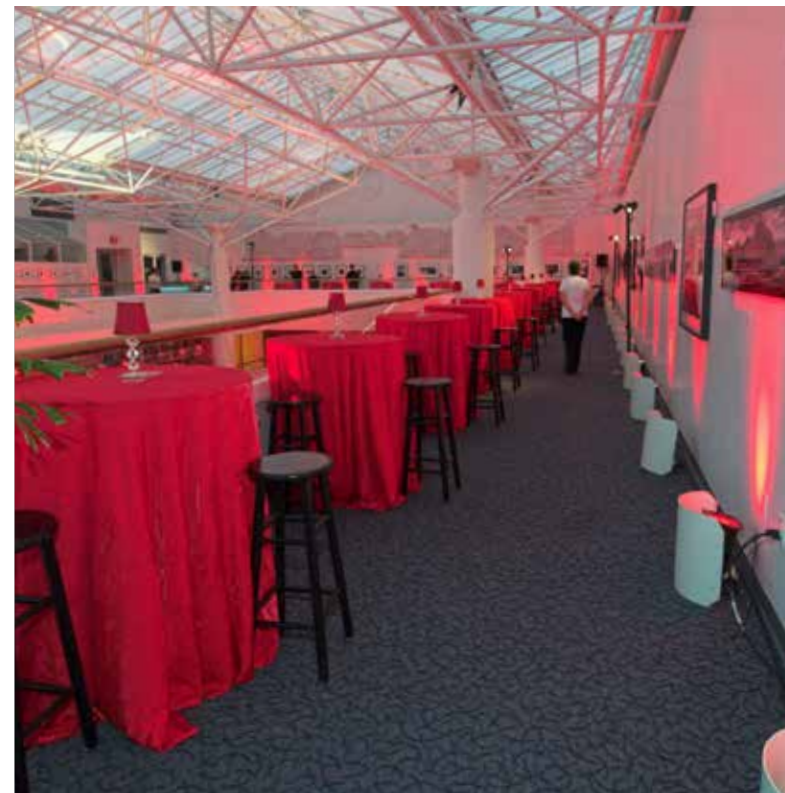
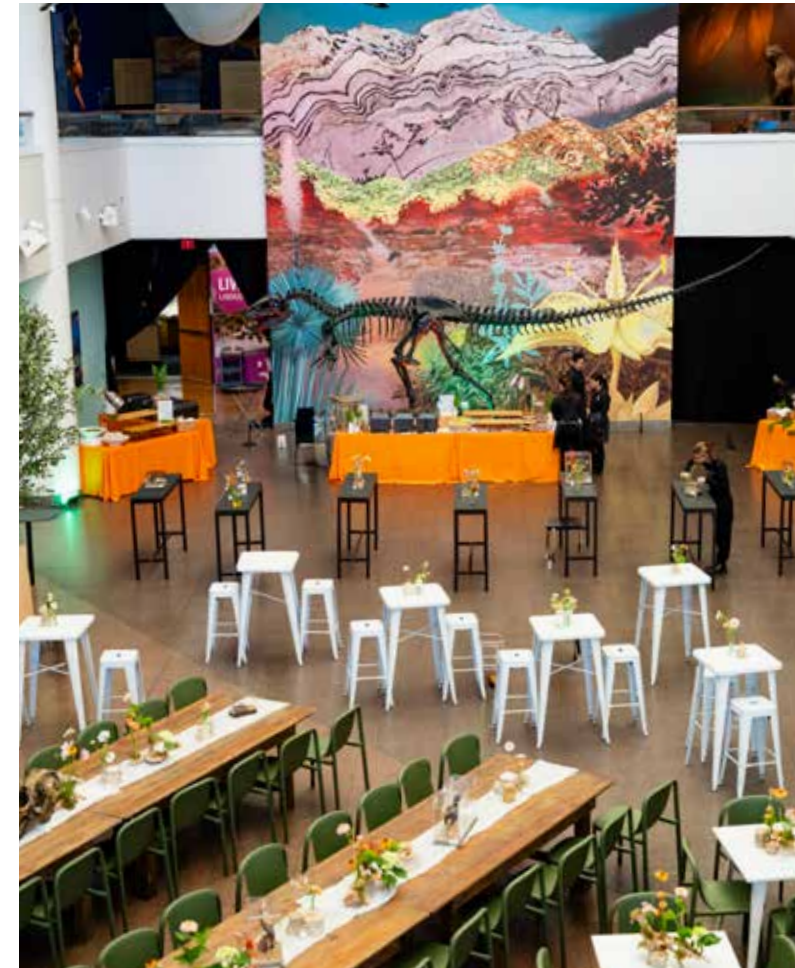
MUSEUM EQUIPMENT RENTALS + FEES

Our extensive equipment rentals were hand-picked by our staff to help you craft your wedding day vision. Contrast rustic farm tables with modern white belly bars, or stick to tradition and dress rounds and cocktail tables in linens. When selecting the SDNHM equipment package, all set-up and breakdown is included.

CHECK OUT OUR EQUIPMENT INVENTORY [HERE](#).

MUSEUM EQUIPMENT PACKAGES

Package A Includes access to all inventory items	\$1,200.00
Package B Includes up to 30 tables, 15 Belly Bars, 300 chairs	\$900.00
Package C Includes up to 20 tables, 10 Belly Bars, 200 chairs	\$700.00
Package D Presentation only equipment includes stage, podium and microphone	\$600.00



ADDITIONAL SERVICES

Children's Activity Space

Included with your booking, the *Backyard* exhibition may be designated as a family-friendly activity space during reception.

Please note: supervision and childcare services are not provided.

Themed Scavenger Hunt for Cocktail Hour

Every inch of our nature-inspired exhibition space is a picture-perfect moment. For a special treat, we offer scavenger hunts that are available for your guests to take advantage of and marvel at our displays of the natural world.

On-Site Venue Manager and Events Staff

Our hospitable, knowledgeable staff will facilitate your special day, assisting vendors with venue details throughout the set-up and breakdown process.

Unlimited Site Visits and Customized Floor Plans

From twinkling market lights to rustic farm tables, we assist in paving the way from concept to execution.

In-House Sound System and Microphone

With a state-of-the-art, in-house sound system, a built-in dance floor, and lighting that soars up the towering columns of our 60ft high Atrium ceiling, you'll be sure to set the perfect scene for you and your guests to dance the night way.

Day-of Event Sound Check

Included with your booking, a sound check on the day of your event allows speakers and presenters to test microphones, audio levels, and presentation needs prior to guest arrival, ensuring a smooth experience.

Please note: sound check subject to venue access and event timeline

Vendor Green Room

We include a vendor green room with your booking, giving your vendors the behind-the-scene space they need to ensure your event runs flawlessly from start to finish.

Equipment set-up and breakdown

Choose from one of our equipment packages and our Museum staff will take care of the heavy lifting.

Vendor Guidance and Referrals

Our events team can recommend trusted preferred partners based on your event goals, helping you select vendors that align seamlessly with your vision and enhance your guests' experience.

Event Planning Resources

From scheduled planning meetings to vendor guidelines and timeline templates, our event resources are designed to help you stay organized, streamline details, and plan with confidence from start to finish.

Save the Date & First Look Photos

Photographs of the happy couple taken throughout our historic venue will excite your guests for a night at the museum. Included with venue booking!

Pet-friendly wedding day

We want your pets to celebrate with you! Ask us how it's possible to invite your furry loved one to your big day.

Wedding Rehearsal

Rehearsals included with our exceptional services give you and your loved one the perfect opportunity to practice your grand entrance and first dance, ensuring that the big moments of your unforgettable night run smoothly.

Wedding Suite

A private suite is included with your booking, offering a peaceful space for you and your partner to connect, complete with a balcony and a full-length mirror for those last finishing touches.



BAR SERVICES

Our wedding packages can be crafted to fit your dream. Whether you want your “I do’s” extended or a dinner reception to carry on until 2AM, we’ll customize our exclusive, dreamlike venue based on your needs.

Details

- The Museums works exclusively with the on-site bar services that holds the current liquor license issued by the state of CA. Patrons must contract with the on-site bar service if alcohol will be served at this location.
- All beverage packages are priced per person, for every guest over 21 years of age, and include a bartender, bar back, ice, bar set-up, appropriate condiments, cocktail napkins, straws, front bar, back bar service table and alcohol liability insurance for your event.
- SDNHM provides one (1) bar per 100-125 guests. Each additional requested bar has a \$250.00 fee.
- Exact brands subject to change with comparable quality replacements.
- SDNHM will not serve shots. SDNHM does not over-serve under any circumstances.
- ABC law requires all guests requesting alcoholic beverages to show a valid ID.
- SDNHM does not allow any outside alcohol on the premises per CA-ABC law.
- Outside alcohol will be confiscated by the SDNHM Security
- SDNHM requires last call to be completed 30 minutes before event ends.
- Children over 12 must be counted in your Guest Count; we provide a full array of non-alcoholics.
- California Sales Tax is applied at the end and is 7.75%.
- All prices are subject to an 18% staffing fee. Gratuity is not included in the price.
- All hosted services are subject to a 10% bar staff gratuity.
- A bar contract will be drafted when the final guest count is provided to confirm all bar services.



BAR PRICING

HOSTED BAR PER GUEST OPEN BAR

Precambrian Beer Wine Soda	\$28.00 per person
Paleozoic Liquor Beer Wine Soda	\$30.00 per person
Mesozoic Liquor Beer Wine Soda	\$32.00 per person
Cenozoic Liquor Beer Wine Soda	\$36.00 per person

HOSTED BAR PER DRINK DRINK TICKETS

Precambrian Beer Wine	\$10 per drink
Paleozoic Liquor Beer Wine	\$12 per drink
Mesozoic Liquor Beer Wine	\$13 per drink
Cenozoic Liquor Beer Wine	\$14 per drink
Soft Drinks & Juices	\$3.50 per drink

CASHLESS BAR SERVICE \$800.00 MINIMUM

Precambrian Beer Wine	\$11 per drink
Paleozoic Liquor Beer Wine	\$13 per drink
Mesozoic Liquor Beer Wine	\$14 per drink
Cenozoic Liquor Beer Wine	\$15 per drink
Soft Drinks & Juices	\$3.50 per drink

Additional hours available for an additional fee. All prices are subject to an 18% staffing fee and 7.75% sales tax.

ADD-ON BAR SERVICES

Specialty Cocktails

\$3.00 per person

Create a tailored specialty dino, botany or custom theme cocktail for your event!

Champagne Toast Served Tableside

\$3.00 per person

Includes House Champagne or Sparkling Cider for non-alcoholic guest and Champagne glasses. Champagne can be tray passed or served at dining table

Consumption Hosted & Cashless Bar Options

\$800.00 minimum per bar

Sustainability Options

\$3.00 per person for glassware
\$1.50 per person for biodegradable disposables

PREFERRED PARTNERS

Reliable, experienced vendors listed as our preferred partners capture the serene setting you envision. From a mouth-watering dinner to sweet-scented florals, the museum is a blank canvas designed to fit your style. For a list of recommendations for DJs, coordinators, and more, ask your Events Manager.

REQUIRED VENDORS

Bar Services

The Nat's Beverage Services
619.255.0177
events@sdnhm.org

Catering

Catering vendors on this list are local preferred partners that we use for our events and would recommend for yours! All Preferred Caterers are subject to a 10% food and beverage operations fee. All non-preferred catering vendors are subject to a 15% food and beverage operation fee.

Continental Catering
619.698.3500
continentalcateringsd.com

The Craft Taco at The Nat
619.255.0184
thecrafttaco.com

Feast on This
858.597.0740
feastonthis.com

Personal Touch Dining
858.638.0672
personaltouchdining.com

TOAST Catering
619.795.9135
toastcatering.com

Urban Kitchen Group
619.239.2222
urbankitchengroup.com

The Wild Thyme Company
858.527.0226
thewildthymecompany.com

Wolf in the Woods
619.234.2597
thewolfinthewoods.com



PREFERRED VENDORS

Coordinators

Type A Soiree Events
805.260.8709
typeasoiree.com

Best Day Ever Weddings
858-522-0504
bestdayeverweddings.com

First Comes Love
619.501.1695
firstcomeslovesd.com

Garnet & Sapphire
415.215.4165
garnetandsapphire.com

Décor & Rentals

TBD
619.494.1398
tbdsandiego.com

Raphaels
858.689.7368
raphaels.com

Bright
858.496.9700
bright.com

Patty's Linen Rentals
619.833.6068
pattyslinenrentals.com

DJs

Encore
760.304.1688
encorexp.com

Supreme DJ
888.997.3493
supremedjent.com

DJ Kanoya Productions
760.809.6951
dikanoya.com

Dancing DJ
619.514.3117
dancingdjproductions.com

AV

Encore
760.304.1688
encorexp.com

ETS
1.844.663.8368
etsprod.com

SocialLights
619.352.0654
sdsociallights.com

SOS Entertainment
800.632.1767
sosentertainment.com

Florals

AHR
619.993.5924
floresarturo.co

Green Fresh Florals
619.544.0504
greenfreshflorals.com

Inecui
619.228.5625
inecui.com

Nancy Lobo
760.519.3388
nancylobodesigns.com

Photographer

Valerie Durham
619.339.9174
valeriedurhamphotography.com

Alyss
honeyphotographs.co

Nikki Hildebrand
619.792.3413
nikkihildebrand.com

Eder Photo
619.549.6171
ederphoto.com

Photobooth

Pixster
888.668.5524
pixsterphotobooth.com

Picture Bakery
619.333.0191
picturebakery.com

Pix Ahoy
619.508.2805
pixahoyphotobooth.com

The Vanity Portrait Studio
415.504.2943
thevanityportraitstudio.com

Transportation

Ace Parking
855.223.7275
aceparking.com

Preferred Valet Parking
619.233.7275
preferredvaletparking.com

Old Town Trolley Tours
866.754.0966
trolleytours.com/san-diego

Five Star Tours
619.722.8687
fivestartours.com

Entertainment

Black Tie Casino
858.859.0711
blacktiecasinoevents.com

Encore
760.304.1688
encorexp.com

Imagination Entertainment
619.640.6500
imaginationent.com

Living World Entertainment
1.518.586.1548
livingworldentertainment.com

Desserts

Cabeto's Pops
619.636.1301
cabetos.com

Split bakehouse
splitbakehouse.com

Frost Me Cafe & Bakery
frostme.com



CONTACT INFORMATION

Your guests will be sharing their memorable experiences long far after your event ends at The Nat, proof that it was a success! Read testimonials from past clients here: <https://www.sdnhm.org/plan-an-event/testimonials>. Contact our Events team for more information about how we can collaborate to make your special experience memorable!

Email
events@sdnhm.org

Website
sdnat.org/plan-an-event

Event FAQs
sdnat.org/plan-an-event/event-faqs

Facebook
[@SanDiegoNaturalHistoryMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/SanDiegoNaturalHistoryMuseum)

Instagram
[@SDNHM](https://www.instagram.com/SDNHM)

Pinterest
[@SDNHM](https://www.pinterest.com/SDNHM)



the nat | SAN DIEGO
NATURAL HISTORY
MUSEUM

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1788 El Prado, Balboa Park
San Diego, CA 92101

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sdnat.org/plan-an-event